Mills, Bhiwani (Haryana) for the years 1985, 1986, 1987 and so far during 1988;

(b) what are the reasons for which the excise duty has not been recovered so far; and

(c) what steps have been taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Six show-cause notices for an amount of Rs. 25.34 lakhs have been issued to Bhiwani Textile Mills and final orders on these notices are yet to be passed. Hence, the amount has not become due.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Policies issued by ECGC for construction projects of Indian companies

2837. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the types of policies issued by the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to support construction projects of Indian companies abroad and modifications made in such policies in the recent past and those proposed for the future;

(b) what is the value of construction projects for which risk cover was issued by ECGC in respect of each country in 1985, 1986 and 1987 under each type of risk cover;

(c) what is the countrywise value of claims submitted to ECGC by construction project exporters for non-payment by overseas clients and amount of claims paid to them in each of the last three years;

(d) what is the amount which ECGC has written off in the last three years as bad debt or unrecoverable on account of settlement of such claims in respect of each country; and

(e) what are the names of the countries in the Middle East and Africa for which no risk cover or restricted cover is issued to construction project exporters and what are the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) E.C.G.C. has two types of policies to cover construction Projects:—

(i) Construction works policy (Comprehensive Risks) to cover contracts Indian exporters may enter into with private employers abroad;

(ii) Construction works policy (Political Risks) to cover contracts Indian Exporters may enter into with Government.

These polices are under review.

(b) Value of construction projects for which risks cover was issued by E.C.G.C. in respect of various countries during 1985-86-87 is as under:

(Rs. in crores)

Country	1985		1986		1987	
	GB	PB	GB	PB	GB	PB
Bahrain	..	0.42	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	0.41	..	..	..	0.36	..
Bhutan	..	..	..	..	0.71	..
Doha/Quater	..	..	..	2.75	..	..
Ethiopia	..	..	..	..	2.15	..
Indonesia	..	..	1.40	..	..	..
Iran	..	0.93	..	..	..	..
Iraq	..	..	306.45	..	44.10	..
Jordan	..	..	15.03	..	4.56	..
Kuwait	..	0.42	..	2.59	3.23	..
Libya	..	10.79	..	..	..	..
Malaysia	..	..	2.12	..	20.44	..
Nepal	1.77	..	3.26	..	3.21	..
Oman	..	..	6.23	..	..	..
Saudi Arabia	1.45	39.40	..	..	5.17	0.63
Sri Lanka	0.57	..	0.79	0.02	0.11	..
Syria	..	..	..	..	1.34	..
Thailand	3.60	..	1.84	..	..	..
Uganda	..	..	..	..	2.23	..
USSR	..	..	..	..	66.50	..
Y. A. R.	0.69	12.28	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	8.49	64.24	337.12	5.36	154.11	0.63

P B : Private Buyer.

GB : Government Buyer.

(c) (Rs. in crores)

Country	Claims submitted to E.C.G.C. by construction project exporters during last three years				Claims paid to construction project exporters during last three years.			
	1985	1986	1987	Total	1985	1986	1987	Total
Iraq	..	..	0.44	0.44	..	..	..	..
Libya	2.36	1.77	37.99	42.12	..	..	..	..
Nigeria	..	0.15	..	0.15	..	..	0.14	0.14
Nepal	..	..	0.47	0.47	..	..	..	..
Tanzania	..	..	3.57	3.57	..	..	3.36	3.36
TOTAL	2.36	1.92	42.47	46.75	..	..	3.50	3.50

(d) NIL

(e) The names of the countries under restricted cover in Middle East and African countries are as under:—

African Countries

Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Lebanon, Liberia, Morocco, Mozambique, Mauritania, Nigeria, Sierra Laone, Sudan, Tan Zania, Uganda, Zaire; Zambia.

Middle East Countries

Iraq, Iran, Syria.

Exchange of soiled notes by banks

2838. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the nationalised banks have been permitted to maintain currency chests and all banks under this category are required to open exchange counters exclusively to exchange free of cost soiled, torn and mutilated notes of denominations upto Rs. 500/-;

(b) if so, what are the names of such banks;

(c) whether it is a fact that none of these banks has opened such counters and illegal money changers have flourished in Delhi and parts of Haryana as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that all the nationalised banks maintain Currency Chests at different major centres in the country. Such of their branches as are maintaining Currency Chests are required to open counters to exchange free of cost soiled, torn and mutilated notes of denominations upto Rs 500/- in accordance with the Rules of RBI in this regard.

(b) All public sector banks' branches (State Bank of India, its Associates and 20 nationalised banks) all over the country having Currency Chest arrangements have been authorised to extend above mentioned exchange facility to members of the public.

(c) and (d) All the Currency Chest branches of public sector banks are expected to open exchange counters